

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/EE:HGILMORE:MD

APPROVED BY EUR:JAARMITAGE

PM:STERN

C:WTSINN

H:KBJENKINS

S/PC:TSIMONS

OASD/ISA:CDR. STEELE/AAKALOVSKY

L/PM:BOREK (SUBS)

NSC:ADCLIFT

S/S- MR. EALUM

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 247714

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (ELLSWORTH, ROBERT)

SUBJECT: ELLSWORTH VISIT: GUIDANCE FOR TALKS IN
YUGOSLAVIA

1. WE HAVE ASKED EMBASSY BELGRADE TO CONFIRM YOUR VISIT
FOR NOVEMBER 15-18 AND WILL INFORM YOU IMMEDIATELY UPON
RECEIPT OF YUGOSLAV RESPONSE. WE HAVE SET FORTH BELOW
DEFENSE AND STATE THINKING ON PURPOSE OF VISIT AND WOULD
WELCOME ANY FURTHER VIEWS YOU MIGHT HAVE.

2. IN VIEW OF DEPARTMENT AND DOD, BASIC PURPOSE OF VISIT
IS TO EXPLORE AS CONCRETELY AS POSSIBLE INTEREST WHICH
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YUGOSLAV LEADERS EXPRESSED TO SECRETARY KISSINGER IN OBTAIN-

ING MILITARY ITEMS FROM U.S.

3. WE ENVISAGE TALKS AS FOCUSING PRIMARILY ON YUGOSLAV DESIRE TO PROCURE AMMUNITION AND SPARE PARTS FOR ARMS THE U.S. HAS PREVIOUSLY SUPPLIED TO YUGOSLAVIA.

4. YUGOSLAVS ARE ALSO LIKELY TO RAISE QUESTION OF SUPPLY OF SELECTED SOPHISTICATED MILITARY ITEMS. WE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN HEARING MORE SPECIFICALLY WHAT THEY HAVE IN MIND INCLUDING HOW THEY WOULD ENVISAGE FINANCING MILITARY ITEMS THEY DESIRE. ANY INFORMATION WHICH WOULD BE ACQUIRED

IN THIS REGARD WOULD ASSIST US IN DETERMINING FEASIBILITY OF POSSIBLE PROPOSALS FOR YUGOSLAVIA. IN SEEKING TO ACQUIRE SUCH INFORMATION, YOU MAY WISH TO BEAR IN MIND SUCH POTENTIAL PROBLEMS AS: (A) EXISTING LEGISLATIVE AND BUDGETARY CONSTRAINTS RELATING TO EXTENSION OF CREDIT AND PROVISION OF SOPHISTICATED WEAPONS TO UNDERDEVELOPED COUNTRIES; (B) NON-TRANSFER ASSURANCES WHICH MUST BE RECEIVED AS CONDITION FOR PROVISION OF ANY U.S. DEFENSE ARTICLES OR SERVICES TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES, (C) COMPATIBILITY OF PROGRAM WITH REQUIREMENTS OF NATIONAL DISCLOSURE POLICY. (YOU WILL RECALL THAT IN JUNE 1973 DEPUTY SECRETARIES OF STATE AND DEFENSE APPROVED POLICY PAPER SUPPORTING LESS RESTRICTIVE MILITARY SALES POLICY FOR YUGOSLAVIA. PAPER PROVIDES INTER ALIA THAT WE WILL SEEK EXCEPTIONS TO NATIONAL DISCLOSURE POLICY IN ORDER TO PROVIDE YUGOSLAVIA WITH CLASSIFIED ITEMS OF A DEFENSIVE NATURE ON A CASE-BY-CASE BASIS.)

5. WE WOULD ALSO BE INTERESTED IN ANY INFORMATION WHICH MIGHT EMERGE CONCERNING THE YUGOSLAVS' PERCEPTION OF NATURE OF EXTERNAL THREAT AND WAYS IN WHICH THEY ACT ON THESE PERCEPTIONS IN STRUCTURING THEIR FORCES AND DEVELOPING STRATEGY AND TACTICS. SUCH INFORMATION WOULD BE USEFUL IN SUPPORTING ANY POSSIBLE PROPOSALS DEPARTMENT AND DOD MIGHT PRESENT TO CONGRESS.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GarlanWA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE247714
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: HGILMORE:MD
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740323-0689
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741156/aaaabvfi.tel
Line Count: 98
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GarlanWA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 JUL 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 JUL 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <31 MAR 2003 by GarlanWA>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ELLSWORTH VISIT: GUIDANCE FOR TALKS IN YUGOSLAVIA
TAGS: OVIP, (ELLSWORTH, ROBERT)
To: JIDDA AMMAN
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005